

THE ANNALS

AND

MAGAZINE OF NATURAL HISTORY.

[THIRD SERIES.]

No. 26. FEBRUARY 1860.

VII.—*Descriptions of a Zoophyte and two Species of Echinodermata new to Britain.* By JOSHUA ALDER, Esq.

[With a Plate.]

THE animals now described were obtained by George Barlee, Esq., during a dredging excursion to the Shetland Islands, in the summer of 1858. Mr. Barlee was so fortunate as to discover many new and interesting marine Invertebrata during his sojourn in those islands, the greater part of which belong to the class Polyzoa, and have been placed for description in the able hands of Professor Busk. The Molluscan rarities obtained have been already noticed in this Journal by Mr. Jeffreys. To complete the account of Mr. Barlee's discoveries, descriptions of the following species are now added.

Class ZOOPHYTA.

Family Campanulariadae.

Campanularia fastigiata, n. sp.

Polypary with a smooth creeping stem, adhering closely to other Zoophytes. Cells large, oblong, tubular, gradually tapering below into a short pedicle, which is smooth and without rings; above, the cell rises into two opposite points, between which a plaited membrane on each side slopes over the aperture, forming an operculum with a medial ridge. Height of cell one-tenth of an inch.

On the stem of an *Eudendrium* from the inner Hauf, Shetland.

The nearest ally to this curious species is the *C. syringa*, from which it differs in its greater size and transparency, in the absence of rings on the pedicles, and in the cell's tapering

gradually into the latter at the base; but it differs more especially in the peculiar form of the operculum, which, when closed, slopes down on each side like the roof of a house, the two opposite angles forming the gables (Pl. V. fig. 1). When the operculum is fully open, the folds disappear, and the edges unite into a continuous rim round the top of the cell.

The description is taken from specimens preserved in fluid. The species belongs to the section of *Campanularia* which Mr. Hincks proposes to form into a new genus under the name of *Calicella* *.

Class ECHINODERMATA.

Order CRINOIDEA.

Comatula Sarsii.

Comatula mediterranea?, Sars, Beskr. og Jagttagels.

Alecto Sarsii, Von Düben and Koren, Ofversigt af Skandinaviens Echinodermter, p. 3, tab. 6. f. 2.

One specimen of this little *Comatula* was obtained from deep water off the Hauf,—the first that has occurred in the British seas. The species was originally noticed by Professor Sars on the coast of Norway, and is fully described by MM. von Düben and Koren in their Monograph of the Scandinavian Echinodermata. It is smaller than the *Comatula rosacea* of Forbes, and more delicate and fragile in all its parts. One of the points most relied on for distinction is the character of the dorsal cirri, in which the joints are less numerous and more slender and elongated than in the other species, and are terminated by two claws (fig. 2), while those of *C. rosacea* have only one (fig. 3). There are also differences in the arms and pinnules. The colour of the individuals seen alive was light greyish brown.

Comatula Sarsii is a deep-water species, and appears to be very rare. The few specimens found on the Norwegian coast were dredged in depths varying from 50 to 100 fathoms. That got by Mr. Barlee was likewise found in deep water. It has been injured in the dredge; but enough remains to show the true character of the species.

The following is the diagnosis of this species given by Von Düben and Koren :—

“Cirrhii dorsum totum obtegentibus, sub 40, tenuibus, articulis 13–20, quorum longissimi (4–6) triplo longiores quam

* Among the Hydroid Zoophytes collected by Mr. Barlee was a fine specimen of *Grammaria ramosa*, of large size and very much branched. *Halecium labrosum*, *Sertularia alata*, *Plumularia halecioides*, *P. myriophyllum*, *Campanularia Hincksii*, and *C. gracillima* were also met with.

